

Toys "Made in the U.S.A." Coming Into Their Own

Japan, Which Assumed to Inherit the Trade Lost to Teutons, Must Now Succumb—Her Products Too Flimsy to Meet Childhood's Requirements.

In an absolutely open market the American toy manufacturers have beaten the Japanese in their own field. The publication of the figures of Japan's commerce during the year ending May 31, have been made the basis of a concerted effort in Yokohama to try to recapture the lost ground.

With the outbreak of the European war the manufacture of toys in Austria and Germany was stopped suddenly. Great difficulties of distribution confronted other toy producing countries, such as Holland. Their exports, therefore, were materially reduced. Toys had to be made for children must play. With the difficulties of transportation on the Atlantic, the eyes of the Far East turned expectantly to those nations controlling the trade of the Pacific—Japan and the United States.

Then Japan Took the Field.

Owing to her previous reign in the manufacture of toys Japan immediately sprang to the lead. Leading houses sent representatives to the Philippines, the Dutch Indies and India, from which regions the demand was particularly insistent. So successful were these journeys and so large were the orders received that many manufacturers invested large sums in new machinery and buildings. The principal demand was for colored paper toys, small flags and wooden models. This demand so closely resembled the lines already developed by the Japanese that the manufacturers simply continued making goods along the old pattern. They presumed that they could

force Japanese tastes upon these tropical countries. The deliveries were prompt, the packing was excellent, and the consignees appeared satisfied.

Not so the children. Used to the strong and well built Dutch toys with their durable colors, they were dissatisfied with the flimsy and inferior product of Japan. The toys to which they were accustomed had been carved out of solid wood; these later playthings were made of a slip of bamboo and glued. The colors came off when they were "licked," and an hour's play with the top in a tropical sun caused all its hues to fade. The tastes of the children had not been consulted, and as they were the ultimate consumers, great power lay in their hands. The wreckage of the Japanese toy in the hands of the children was the signal for the downfall of Japanese trade extension.

Only Other Competitor.

Merchants of the Indies turned their eyes to the only other competitor on the Pacific—the United States. Having no traditions, American manufacturers were ready to study the demands of the buyers. Although they were not able to make the goods as cheaply as the Japanese owing to the higher price of labor, the better workmanship of the toys, more than made up for the difference in price. The Japanese trade which had grown extensively, shrivelled, while the small beginnings of American manufacturers have increased enormously. A new market has opened before the American toy industry and appears to rest upon a solid basis.

Arbitration Keeps 60,000 From Strike

New York.—A strike of 60,000 members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union was averted Wednesday by Mayor Mitchell's Conciliation Council, which finally adjusted all differences after twenty-three sessions. While the union already had voted almost unanimously on a walkout and had given the manufacturers until midnight Wednesday night to accede to the finding of the council, further time was allowed for today's conference at which the questions involved could be reviewed.

The new scale of wages gave the employees in various departments an increase which was acceptable, although the full demands were not granted. The settlement was a compromise, the split scale being adopted in the fixed weekly salary allowance. There also was an increase for piece workers.

Adler Issues Letter.

Dr. Felix Adler, Chairman of the Conciliation Council, in a letter to Charles Heineman, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Cloak, Suit and Skirt Manufacturers' Association, said it was only fair to state that the association had announced its acceptance in principle of the Council's recommendations on July 29.

Points for which the union contended, and which were granted, provided for a review by an impartial tribunal of all cases where union members were discharged; for the preservation of standards by protocol provisions, and an equal distribution of work during the dull season to "an extent not conflicting with the efficient operation of shops."

Concerning the future possibility of differences, Dr. Adler in his letter to Chairman Heineman said:

"If a case of actual dispute due to differences of interpretation arises between the parties our recommendations specifically provide for a method of adjustment."

He added that the council would be available to interpret and apply the principles laid down in the agreement whenever the parties appeal to it.

PEOPLE MORE THRIFTY.

San Francisco.—According to reports by building and loan associations of this country, these institutions increased their assets last year more than \$100,000,000, making a growth of nearly 9 per cent over the previous year.

There are in the United States 6,612 building and loan associations, with a membership of 2,103,435 and assets aggregating \$1,357,340,036. This is an increase over last year of 183 associations, 267,002 members and \$108,860,897 in assets.

ENFORCED HOLIDAY FOR EDITOR HARDEN

LONDON.—A Reuter dispatch from Copenhagen says: "Maximilian Harden, editor of Die Zukunft, passed through Copenhagen Thursday, incognito, on an enforced holiday of indefinite duration in Northern Scandinavia."

"His recent article virtually commending Italy's attack on her arch enemy—Austria—is reported to have aroused the wrath of official Germany."

PRINTERS CALL ON UNIONISTS.

Chicago.—Typographical Union adopted a resolution inviting other trades unions to join with it in obtaining the services of a legal representative to watch the investigation into the Eastland disaster. The resolution declares the accident will go down in history as "one more charge against carelessness or 'incompetency,' and that 'ever disaster of this nature in the past has resulted in a 'whitewash' for the offenders."

SAYS LAWSON VERDICT IS NATIONAL CRIME

Sacramento, Cal.—"If young Rockefeller were put upon trial for a crime in Colorado, what would the world think of the gubernatorial appointment to the bench, as a judge to try his case, of the leading counsel for the United Mine Workers of America?" asks the Sacramento Bee.

"Granby Hillyer, fresh from the service of the Rockefellers, was picked out by a gubernatorial appointment last spring to sit in judgment over a man whom his employers were prosecuting—the people had no choice therein."

"A verdict obtained under such circumstances should not be permitted to remain."

"If John R. Lawson be guilty of the crime charged against him he should be punished—and hanging would not be too severe a sentence."

"But it would be a crime against Justice and a stain upon this Nation if he were to be forced to take a life sentence in jail at the hands of a Granby Hillyer. Whether one man more or less goes to jail is of very little consequence in comparison with the question whether the scales of Justice are to be thus weighed in advance against a defendant."

"For, if this thing can be done against John R. Lawson, it can be done against any man."

LIFE PROTECTED BY UNIONS.

Indianapolis.—The United Mine Workers' Journal calls attention to the evidence of the inspector of mines of Colorado that the courts of that state were practically closed to complaints of violations of the mining laws.

The editor makes these observations: "Organization of the miners is the only way through which such loss of life can be lessened. Through their organization the men who have to face these dangers could voice their collective demands for observance of the laws, and for the well known safeguards against accidents. Domination of the courts would be eliminated by organized men, free to express themselves through their ballots. Thus violations of the law would be made more costly than the observance thereof. Safety for the men would become more profitable for the company than accidents. Impersonal ownership of the industries has made organization of the workers imperative. Without organization they can not survive."

JOBS FOR OHIO MINERS

Open in Kentucky and West Virginia—153 Sent to Cleveland.

Columbus.—While a miners' special was carrying 153 miners to new employment in Cleveland Thursday, word came to the Adjutant General's Department that work for one hundred additional miners was available in the West Virginia coal fields, and that twenty could be given jobs in Kentucky mines.

State officials immediately will arrange for special trains to carry the unemployed men to these places. Coal operators' associations of the two States made the applications.

Mining Commissioner John M. Roan, in charge of the miners' special, said nearly 1,000 miners had tried to board the train at Gloucester, in eagerness to get to work. Sleeping accommodations will be found in the National Guard Armory at Cleveland, he said.

HALF HOLIDAY FOR MAIL MEN.

Toronto, Ontario.—Letter carriers are enjoying a Saturday half holiday as the result of orders by the Dominion post-office department. The mail men were supported in their agitation for this reform by the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada. The order will be in force during July and August.



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Low Cost to Policy-Holders

Sickness Insurance Asked For All Industrial Workers

Columbus.—Sickness insurance for all industrial workers is advocated in the latest monthly bulletin of the Ohio State Board of Health. Such insurance, to be under the supervision of the State, would be a logical sequel to workmen's compensation insurance, which the State now conducts for the benefit of victims of industrial accidents.

The success of State compensation in case of accidents in Ohio and other States, the bulletin says, is at least part proof that "the second phase of insurance by the State could be well and successfully developed."

The plan for sickness insurance, however, would be somewhat differently carried out as compared with the compensation scheme, according to the State Health Board's view. For, whereas in compensation for accidents, the employer bears the brunt of nearly all the burden, in the sickness insurance plan the cost would be borne by the State, the employer and the employee. The ultimate result would be to reduce sickness

itself, and therefore, minimize the entire burden the bulletin opines.

It says: "An immediate effect is to promote at once all measures which tend to keep down the causes for which insurance has to be spent. We see the first fruits of the system in the 'safety first' propaganda which we have with us today. In like manner we would see an immediate, sudden expansion of all measures tending to prevent sickness and deaths from or social insurance covering sickness be generally adopted. An incident in this development, probably, would be the ready control of occupational diseases, for, being but one part of the diseases to be compensated for, they probably early would receive an impetus of attention from each of the three elements who must pay the premium for the insurance—the State, the employer and the employee. Sickness insurance means the injection of the dollar more vitally than ever into the question of the prevention of disease, and on this account we should expect great things to come of it."

Not to Be Thought Of.

Certainly some might be foolish enough to call Athens, Thermopylae and Marathon the most famous Greece spots in history, but it would be dangerous.—Judge.

Of Course Not.

"Beauty is only skin deep." "That's enough. You only want to kiss a peachy cheek. You don't want to bite it."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Laudable.

"What is your idea of reorganizing the choir?" "I want to put it on a sound basis."—Boston Transcript.

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